CLAIMS

1. A mutant of a microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* having a higher sensitivity to lysozyme than a wild-type microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus*.

2. The microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* according to claim 1, wherein the microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* is *Rhodococcus erythropolis*.

3. The microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* according to claim 2, wherein the *Rhodococcus erythropolis* is *Rhodococcus erythropolis* strain L-65 (Accession No. FERM BP-8443) or *Rhodococcus erythropolis* strain L-88 (Accession No. FERM BP-8444).

4. A method of producing a protein comprising transforming a mutant of a microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* having a higher sensitivity to lysozyme than a wild-type microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* by a gene encoding an exogenous protein; expressing the gene; and treating the microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* with lysozyme, thereby extracting and recovering the protein.

5. The method of producing a protein according to claim 4, wherein the microorganism of the genus *Rhodococcus* is *Rhodococcus erythropolis*.

6. The method of producing a protein according to claim 5, wherein the *Rhodococcus erythropolis* is *Rhodococcus erythropolis* strain L-65 (Accession No. FERM BP-8443) or *Rhodococcus erythropolis* strain L-88 (Accession No. FERM BP-8444).